

SASMEE

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF MODEL
& EXPERIMENTAL ENGINEERS

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Bulletin

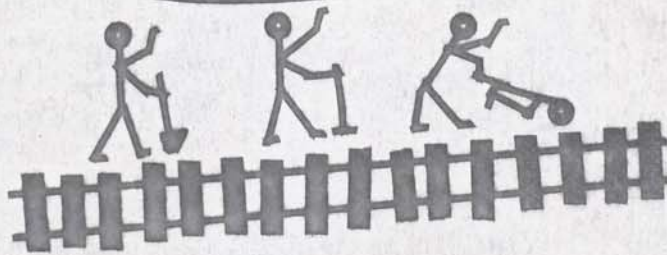
THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY
OF
MODEL AND EXPERIMENTAL
ENGINEERS

"Summer"
December 1983



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

Papers



News

Views

Opinions

Facts

Ideas

Rubbish (mostly !) & Information

Summer 1983

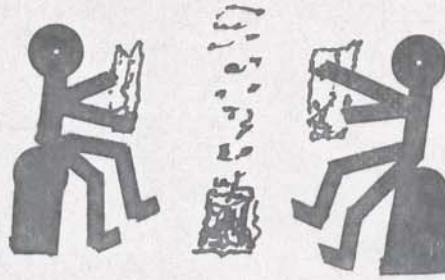
Yes, it's happened ! The "ground level ", or should I say " THE GROUND LEVEL " track is in use . Everything, overpasses etc., having been completed, your committee decided to 'give-it-a-go' on the public field day of Saturday the 20th. August .

Some necessary rules were made, such as ; no vehicles to steaming bays or pond after 2 pm. (to avoid confrontations like the episode in "The Titfield Thunderbolt" but in our case biased toward the cars), twice around the track providing a very satisfactory ride, and a few other common sense do's and don'ts .

We didn't advertise that we were using the track but it apparantly got around very well, as an excellent crowd turned up (it was also a beautiful afternoon) and the whole afternoon went without a hitch (had you been looking around you would have seen most of your committee biting their nails to the bone !).

The view from the overpass of the steaming bays before 2 pm. was fantastic . It's a long time since I have seen so many locos and such a variety of types in steam . The grand parade was led by John Levers, now I'm not sure whether John managed to get to the grounds first or whether it was because he didn't have to light a fire but his Burlington was firmly railed at the starting points . Anyway a grand time was had by all . One immediate spin-off was that the queue for the elevated track was greatly reduced , this will be even more appreciated in the hot summer months . All-in-all the Society, and particularly the members who have toiled so hard over the past six or so years are to be congratulated .

Noticed in the grounds were some of our past secretaries (a pen of secretaries ?), Peter, Brian, Clary and Mary was one of the point/signal operators . Also met a member of Hobart SME , who wished us well, he was on holiday and dropped in to see what we were up to . I was very pleased that so many of the members rushed to fill the allotted jobs and I regret that I missed a couple of people who wanted to help and didn't get a job .



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Success having gone to our heads, the next public field day Sunday the 4th. September was waited for with great anticipation . But it rained and rained and rained . I understand that it was the first time in most members memory that the field day had to be cancelled and a very soggy team left the grounds early, for home and dry clothes . I guess that that was known as 'flushed with success !' ..

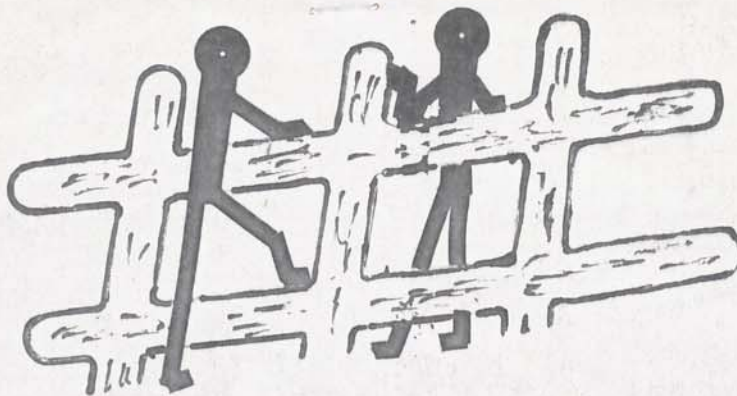
Seriously, both ground level and elevated track are working hand in hand, and it is a pleasure to see how effeciently the public are now catered for . Enough about trains.....

Pond Life

Some 6 or so weeks ago, I took the opportunity of bringing my wife and invalid mother to our grounds . It was a pleasant day and we had our sandwiches and coffee siting on a bench beside the pond and admired the scene, it set me to thinking how lucky we present members of SASMEE are, apart from being very functional we have probably one of the most scenic model engineer's grounds . For this we have to thank the far-sightedness of our founders and the members and committees who have worked over the past fifty-six years to bring the grounds to their present state and we should do nothing that would spoil it for future members .

Whilst sitting there, for the first time I noticed that there were gold-fish in the pond, quite big ones too, and I wondered what they did on public field days . Probably gave each other the nod and 'here they come, down to the bottom boys !' and stayed there for the rest of the afternoon while above them sailing boats, paddle wheelers, steam tugs, destroyers and liners cruised around . No doubt they cringed when Norman's hydroplane roared around, but at least they were safe on the bottom . Can you imagine their shock and horror to be suddenly confronted with a big black submarine where they thought they were safe ? Well done Charlie, it was a display worth watching and at least you stirred up the mud in the pond .

By the time that you are reading this, I hope that I will have organised a board to display the member's name, model and if R/C the frequency . Not only will it assist members but it will inform the public and it may be a worthwhile idea to extend to our other sections, the stations could have a board stating the type of engine and drivers name and I know that the boiler house is working on an information board, aren't you boys ???? .



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The Boiler House and Display

Once the public have had their train ride, there is a steady stream of visitors to the boiler house and the display of prototype and model steam engines. This is probably where our best P.R. work can be done, as the pace is more relaxed and it is much quieter than at the stations and the public ask questions about the machines, and we, if we are on our toes, can get our two-penny worth in about the Society.

Still at the boiler house we would be very remiss if we did not thank the members for providing the fuel for the boiler, especially Glen Templeman who has recently made several trips to a country property and brought back large trailer loads of very dry discarded fencing posts - and a most digestable stuff it is for the boiler. I believe that you are having a little trouble with a blocked or partly blocked flue? A certain person would only have to give a couple of puffs with his pipe to clear it !!

General Notes

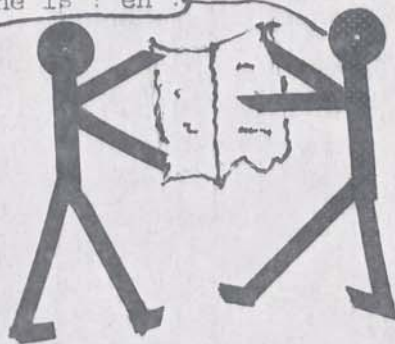
If you were wondering why Barry Dunstan's 'Springbok' was missing for a few field days (knowing how reliable the old girl was), Barry tells me that it had to be withdrawn due to 'considerable cylinder and valve chest wear'.

Barry said ' luckily the cylinder and valve chest liners were able to withstand extensive honing (about 9 thou on the valve chest), and with new pistons and valve rings the old box of springs is now back on the track - better than ever. The loco now has a softer exhaust and improved fuel economy .' Barry would like to thank Phil Waugh and Terry Fitton who helped with info and tools.

By the way, Barry would like to buy a 1 inch steam turbo generator - if you have one you could spare give Barry a ring on 248 4843.

Since the last 'Bulletin' we have had some excellent general meeting 'afters '. Paddy Brooks, an inspector of drivers for AN, gave us a beaut run down on the diesel elec locos, together with a few hair-raising tales of drivers under test ! We hope to have Paddy back again soon. The annual auction night was great fun, someone beat me for a microscope and got a bargain, several clocks were snapped up and some of us acquired boxes of nylon knobs. I was looking at my box to-day and wondering what-the-heck I could use them for? I did get a 1/3 hp. elec. motor which I will use for my belt sander (or linisher, if you want a bit of class).

Who does he think he is ? eh ?



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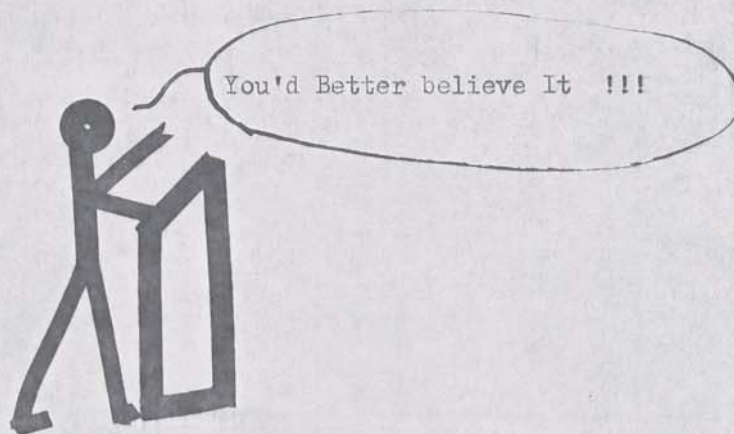
Norman Kernish brightened our September meeting by telling us how he constructed his 6 inch reflector telescope and produced the instrument for us to see . Norm promised to set it up in the grounds on some suitable night so that we may see some of the wonders 'out of our world '.

Although I have been a bit remiss by not writing to other SME's (I plead new boy shyness) fortunately they have not wiped us off their mailing list and we continue to receive their excellent publications which are always available to read in our library . In particular I must mention MELSA, quite a few of our members have made or are in the process of making the knurling tool .

Do not forget that the society now owns a photo-copier, if you want something copied all you have to do is to give the item (s) to me and I will copy it on heavy weight coated paper (which gives excellent contrast). For example, reading through the 1978 volume of 'Live Steam ' I found a very interesting article on heat treatment "Decalescence Versus Cherry Red ", which solved for me the problem of what the heck colour is cherry red ? I now don't have to worry as there is a better way of doing it . Obviously we use a cheaper, lighter paper for our Bulletin and you will notice that I am still experimenting with the format, what is wanted should be easy to read and easy to print .

The returns from the questionnaire were quite good, at first I thought that they were tremendous, but when I collated them I found quite a few names (no pack drill at this time)with no reply .

Now here beginneth the sermon . Membership of a society such as ours provides a lot of enjoyment , I have already mentioned the grounds, a lot of expert advise and help (goodness knows how many boilers Fred Gordon has helped into steam) but it also imposes certain responsibilities, not many in our case, the main item being help on field days and help at the working bees . For the field days, if everyone pulls their weight you should not have to be rostered more than three or perhaps four times a year . It was for that reason I sent the letter to you , it's not much point rostering you for a Saturday when you can only attend on a Sunday or vice versa, or if you work shift-work or are physically unable to help . And I must thank all those members who attached notes to their replies, I hope to get around to replying to you soon .



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But for those that did not answer, then I'm afraid that you will be rostered and it will be up to Y O U to arrange a swap if the time is inconvenient. Let's face it, without our public field days your subs. would increase astronomically (even Norm's telescope wouldn't be able to bring it into focus) and I'm sure that you wouldn't like that .

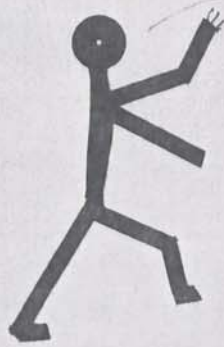
Talking about sub's, a number of members have asked when they are due ? The constitution states ; "The annual subscription shall operate from the Annual General Meeting in May each year, and shall be paid prior to the May meeting . " So there you are, roar through your cheque books and if you haven't paid in 1983 Jeff or John will accept \$20 and no questions asked ! .. If you haven't a good constitution then I can't help you (see your Doc.) but if you want a copy of the Society's constitution, my brief case is heavy with them, you only have to ask .

Perhaps in the new year we may be able to relax a little and have only one public field day each month and devote the other day to the members and their projects . Looking at the Constitution under the Objects of the Society, not one of the eight items listed show public field days (item 7 is a reference to charities). Of course, as I said above we have to balance between subs, and ideals, it is worth a bit of thought , we shouldn't let the tail wag the dog . These are my own thoughts and if you see me with sticking plaster around my face you will know that I have been well and truly gagged !!

The other item about which I have been asked is ' when is the annual show of work ?' That was resolved last gen. meeting and it's to be a combined Christmas Party , Show of Work Day and Members Fun Day on Sunday 27th. November . The gates will be open from 11 am. till ? . So , come on , bring your pet project (engineering type, stupid) have some fun and relax .

Some notes on the Timetable : Firstly you will notice that I have not rostered members for the two public field days in January . With so many on holidays I am relying on some of our old faithful and any members not going away to help out, particularly this applies to Sunday 1 st. Jan., which , judging from past experience will be pretty hectic, so let the lawn grow a bit and come and help us . It's also a good cure for New Year's Eve hangovers !!

Secondly, I have not allocated jobs, the idea is that you circulate around



That's all for
Now.

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between the canteen, the two stations and the points, that way you are not stuck for the afternoon in the one position which can be rather soul destroying .

I have heard a rumour that the plum position of Chief Signaller may be offered on a more or less permanent basis, to one of our members .

Bits of info. from the questionnaire ;

Max Blackwell of Broken Hill has had the boiler of his Northern 4-8-4 tested successfully to 200 lbs. and is gathering pieces for a Honda powered diesel 6x6 . Where do you get the time Max ? Incidentally, when mentioning subs. earlier in this Bulletin, I didn't spell out the current rates which are

Full Member	\$20.00
Country Members	\$10.00
Student Members	\$ 5.00
Family	\$30.00
Joining Fee	\$10.00

There appears to be a spate of 'building' going on at the present time, which is very good . Both steam and diesel in all gauges and all types and also a few Quorns are almost finished, maybe , soon, I will be able to get a few of my cutters etc sharpened on the cheap ? ! I will leave to next Bulletin the details of who is building what , I now know why nobody wants the secretary position, my N.S.W. C 36 hasn't seen much progress for some months .

Finally, for this Bulletin a word of thanks to the canteen managers . Barbara and John are making a real success ^{of it} and I know that it has entailed a lot of work .

You may notice that I do not as a general rule print 'how-to' articles in the Bulletin, these I feel are better left to the professional mags. However, sometimes one gets a clue or because of one's expertise ^{that} person knows a better way of doing a job, then that I would be delighted to publish . An example in point comes from Fred Gordon ;

** To find the size of a tapping drill in inches, subtract from the O.D. of the tap the inverse of the number of threads/inch, this applies to British & American threads .

e.g. To tap 3/4 whit. Ø 10 t.p.i.	Drill size = O.D. tap - 1/T.P.I.
	= 3/4 - 1/10
	= 0.65
	nearest drill is 21/32

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254 7479.

TIME TABLE

November

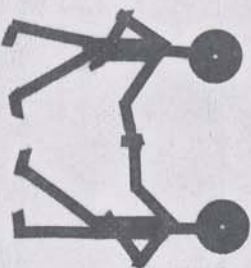
Tue. 1st.	committee	Mark Grimshaw, Ted and Mrs. Fuller, Edward Halse, John Hannan, David Gunn, Ricky Heidenrich.
Sun. 6th.	Public Field Day 2 - 5	
Tue. 8th.	General Meeting.	
Sat. 19th.	Public Field Day. 2 - 5	Bill Holdsworth, Lindsay and Sandra Hope, John Jepson, Trevor Livingston, Andrew Parrott, Jack Spry.
Sun. 27th.	Show of Work - Christmas Party - Good Fun Day. 11 am. - ?	

December

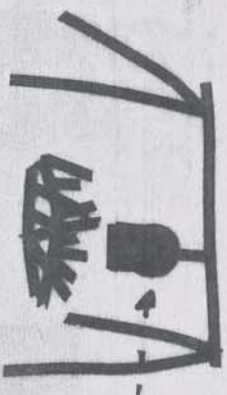
Sun. 4th.	Public Field Day.	Russel Vaux, Allan Webster, Don Zanker, Phillip Nottle, Tony Issa, Bruce Whitmore, Marc Simpson.
Tue. 6th.	Committee	
Tue. 13th.	General Meeting.	
Sat. 17th.	Public Field Day.	Colin Banford, Brad Cottle, Peter Denholm, John Daly, Laurie Fiedler, Merv and Terry Fitton.
Sun. 1th.	January 1984 Public Field Day.	Volunteer Staff.
Tue. 3rd.	Committee	If required.
No General Meeting in January.		
Sat. 21st.	Public Field Day.	Volunteer Staff.

February 1984

Sun. 5th.	Public Field Day	Mark and Coralie Iethbridge, Gareth Rich, Arnold Stead, Len Peckham, Wayne Martin, David Mullins
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**A HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
TO ALL**



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